

The C.R.A.A.P. Test

Name: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Grade all the websites you intend to use for class projects using this rubric. Submit this rubric with your project.

| CRITERIA | EVALUATION TECHNIQUES | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| Currency When was the page/ information written and last updated? | --Is there a copyright or last updated date on the page? --Are links broken (404 error)? --Is it current enough for your topic? | There is no indication of when the site was created or revised. | The date given for the site's creation is over 3 years ago; no date of revision or update is given. | The site has been created or updated within the last 3 years. | Created or updated less than 2 years ago. Sources given or referenced are current. |
| Reliability Where did the author get this information? | --Does the creator provide links to sources for data or quotations? Do those sources seem reliable? --Is the information accurate and error-free? --Can the information be verified or confirmed with another source? | No links to sources or works cited is given. | There is a general statement about the source, but no specific links to courses or a works cited list. | There are links to sources or a works cited list. | There are links to sources or a works cited list. Information is corroborated with another source. |
| Authority of Author Who is responsible for this information? | --Is the author's name given? --Google the authors' names to learn more about them. --Can you figure out what makes the author an expert (i.e., credentials, well-known, respected, etc.?) | The author is probably a student. Errors indicate the author is not an expert. | The author is unnamed and/or no credentials are given. | The author is named, but credentials are incomplete. | Credentials are given and indicate that the author is an expert. |
| Authority of Organization Does the resource have a <u>reputable</u> organization behind it? | --Is there a reputable organization behind it? What is its interest in this information? --What is the domain (.edu, .com, .net, .uk, .k12, etc.)? --Is the page hosted by an individual (look for any of the following in the URL: %, ~, "users," "AOL," "yahoo," etc.) --Search for owner of the site using a "whois" search engine: http://whois.domaintools.com --Who else links to the site? | An individual's page hosted by an Internet service provider (i.e., Comcast, Yahoo, AOL, etc.) or a .com site with no affiliation. | Any of these: --the home page is a K12, .com, .org, or unknown, and NOT included in the rankings for a 2 or a 3. --the home page is a student folder on an .edu site. | A known business, government department, or government agency is the home page. | A professional organization, museum, university-sponsored home page, or a domain of .edu and faculty maintain the site. |
| Purpose/ Point of View Does the information seem fairly represented, or is it biased? | --Scan the contents. Why was it written (information, advice, advocacy, propaganda, opinion, entertainment, commercial site, personal, blog, news, school project)? --Be able to spot point of view. Is the site fair and objective? Is it an advocacy site? Is the page affiliated with an organization that has a particular political or social agenda? --Is there a conflict of interest? Does the website producer stand to benefit or profit from the information being provided? --How important is balance? Is it required for your purposes? Is any bias explicit or hidden? Can you use the information? | The purpose is personal or too much advertising is distracting. | Purpose is to sell, persuade, or give a biased view. Contains some factual information or useful pictures, but the focus is to promote something. | Offers some factual information. Sides are unbalanced with some bias or advertising. | Purpose is to support scholarly research with factual information. Contains balanced coverage without bias. |

What does the score mean?

Total Points = _____

12 to 15 points = Excellent source for research

8 to 11 points = Good source for a research paper or academic project. **Confirm with other sources.**

4 to 7 points = Useful for ideas or casual projects. Do not cite as a reference for a research paper or project.

0 to 3 points = Highly questionable source. Keep looking!